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AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A magnetic head, comprising:
a sensor having an antiparallel (AP) pinned layer structure, wherein the AP pinned layer structure includes at least two pinned layers having magnetic moments that are self-pinned antiparallel to each other, the pinned layers being separated by an AP coupling layer; and
a pair of compression layers positioned towards opposite track edges of the sensor, the compression layers providing compressive stress to the sensor, the compression layers being adapted for enhancing the antiparallel pinning of the pinned layers of the AP-pinned-layer-structure.
2. (ORIGINAL) A head as recited in claim 1, wherein the compression layers are constructed of metal.
3. (ORIGINAL) A head as recited in claim 1, wherein the compression layers are constructed of rhodium.
4. (WITHDRAWN) A head as recited in claim 1, wherein the compression layers are constructed of tantalum.
5. (WITHDRAWN) A head as recited in claim 1, wherein the compression layers are constructed of tungsten.
6. (WITHDRAWN) A head as recited in claim 1, wherein the compression layers are constructed of a dielectric material.